

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01

DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 003270

R 100930Z FEB 74

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 769

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0076

BEIRUT PASS DAMASCUS

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN IZ

SUBJ: RCC DECISIONS TO RAISE LIVING STANDARD

1. AS PART OF 11TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF BAATH REVOLUTION
RCC ISSUED SERIES OF DECREES DESIGNED TO LOWER COST OF LIVING,
PARTICULARLY FOR LOW INCOME GROUS. FOL ARE MOST SIGNIFICATN:

2. INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING ALLOW FROM ID 9 TO 19 (ID EQUALS
3.40 DOLS) PER MONTH TO ALL GOVT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES.

3. INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGE FROM ID .550 TO .650 PER DAY.

4. DECREASE IN INCOME TAX BY RAISING UNTAXED MICIMUM FROM
ID 450 TO ID 600 PLUS ID 300 PER SPOUSE AND ID 100 PER CHILD
UP TO FIVE; I.E, FAMILY OF 7 COULD EARN ID 1400 AND PAY NO
INCOME TAX.

5. PRICE REDUCTIONS OF 20 PERCENT FOR ELECTRICITY IN BAGHDAD
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(50 PERCENT IN REST OF COUNTRY), 15 PERCENT FOR WATER, 12

PERCENT FOR BOTTLED GAS, AND 15 PERCENT FOR KEROSENE.

6. ELIMINATION OF CHARGE FOR MEDICAL LABORATORY AND X RAY TESTS.

7. 30 PERCENT REDUCTION ON INTEREST RATE CHARGED ON REAL ESTATE LOANS.

8. DECREASE IN REAL ESTATE TAXES BY 16 PERCENT.

9. FREE SCHOOL BOOKS UP TO UNIVERSITY LEVEL.

10. ALL UNEMPLOYED UNIVERSITY GRADUATES SHALL BE EMPLOYED BY THE GOVT NOT LATER THAN JUN 74. SOME MINISTRIES HAVE ALREADY BEGUN ASKING FOR APPLICATIONS.
LOWRIE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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